

June 22nd, 2005
MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

Glen Frost chaired the meeting for Bob Warren, and opened the meeting with introductions.

NEW BUSINESS FROM MDT

1. **MDT / Contractors Web Page.** The MDT web pages will be changing effective July 25th. This was required by the Department of Administration. Suzy Althof handed out a sample copy. The same information will be available just in a slightly different format.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **QPL.** The QPL web site (the process) started up in June with no items on the list. Items will be added as the proper certification is submitted.
2. **Specification 701.02.7 Crushed Top Surfacing Type "B".** MDT reiterated that this change is for riding surfaces on roads that will not be paved in the near future. Exceptions can be made in areas without acceptable material within a reasonable distance.
3. **Forms 406 & 407.** MCA stated there is still a problem with small items (nuts, bolts, etc.). Buy America is a Federal requirement. There is an exception to 106.09 Domestic Materials that allows a minimal quantity of foreign (or uncertified) material to be used. The amount is 1/10 of 1% of the contract amount or \$2500.00 whichever is greater. Request these exceptions by letter to the EPM's.
4. **Bid Express.** MDT plans to be in production in July. MCA voiced concern that if both paper and electronic bids are used the electronic bid controls. MDT will allow whatever the Contractors prefer. Paper bids will control for several months (through the Q&A forum or a Special Provision) until there is a comfort factor with the electronic system.
5. **Letting Schedule.** This is still unknown pending a final transportation bill. The President signed another temporary extension that lasts approximately three weeks (July 19th?).
6. **Design Build.** The Depuyer project was awarded to Shumaker Trucking and Excavating Contractors Inc.
7. **Traffic Control (Units vs Lump Sum).** MDT sent out a proposed change in the rate schedule with justification. MCA had concerns with a couple of the changes and requested more time to review and comment. MDT agreed to allow another month for comments.
8. **Erosion Control.** The intent of the size and measurement of fiber rolls has been relayed to the field. MDT feels this should solve the problem and will monitor for any problems.
9. **Utility Task Force.** MDT will be preparing a list of possible solutions or proposals to address this problem. The next meeting date will be scheduled after that is completed.
10. **Subcontractors 101.69 108.01.** MCA would like to have administration and overhead considered as the Contractor performing part of the work and thought that this was okay with FHWA. MDT understood the FHWA requirement to be actual work performed (equipment, materials, and labor) and administration is not considered as "work performed". MDT was advised that they are following the FHWA requirements at this time.

11. Protection of Property 107.10. Everyone agrees that this is a very difficult issue that needs more work. Proposed legislation was killed, with a promise that MACO, MDT and the Construction industry would work together to find a solution. FHWA is researching their position for participation in the costs for haul road repairs. Loran Frazier, MDT Chief Engineer is researching other states and his preliminary findings are that most states have a specification similar to Montana's. MDT does not want to dictate haul roads or material sources so having a bid item for repair is probably not possible. Contractors' should be adding the cost of haul road repair in their bids to comply with 107.10 Protection and Restoration of Property and Landscape. The integrity of the bidding process is vital and not including this cost to lower a bid can present problems. This item will continue to be researched and discussed.

12. Payment of Estimates. If there is a problem with particular EPM's being late with payments, the Contractor should discuss it with the District Construction Engineer.

13. Dates for Chip Seal. MCA would prefer that dates be dropped and temperature be the deciding factor, particularly with the warranty. MDT stated that the warranty is limited in duration and our experience with work after September 1st has been that the results are less than desirable, and is not willing to go later into the fall, even with warm temperatures. MDT and MCA both want a quality product and MDT will be receptive to changes in the contract time in the spring. Discussion will continue on this item.

14. Delineator Layout and Staking. MCA stated it doesn't matter who does the layout, but the Contractors' need to know to plan their schedule and bid. MDT will revise specification 619.03.8 Delineators.

15. Cattle Guards. Bid item will be added for heavy duty cattle guard when required.

NEW BUSINESS FROM MCA

MCA had no new business.

The July letting has been cancelled and therefore the July Technical Committee meeting is also cancelled. There is no meeting in August due to the MCA summer outing.

The next meeting will be **September 21st, 2005**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.

cc: Gene Kaufman, FHWA
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James Walther
Mark Wissinger
Lisa Durbin
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